# Kensington Around Town OCTOBER 2013

#### **CALENDAR**

Town Council Meeting Mon., Oct. 21st, 7 pm

#### **Veterans Day**

Town Offices Closed Mon., Nov. 11th

Town Council Meeting Tues., Nov. 12th, 7pm



3rd Thursday Thur., Nov. 21st, 6:30 pm Old Town

#### **Thanksgiving**

Town Offices Closed Thurs., Nov. 28th

## American Indian Heritage Day

Town Offices Closed Fri., Nov. 29th

#### Menorah Lighting Wed., Nov. 27th, 6:00pm

Christmas Tree Lighting Sun., Dec. 1st, 5:30 pm; Santa arrives at 6:00 pm

Please visit the Town website for updated and current information.
www.tok.md.gov

#### **Leaf Collection Schedule**

The Town's Public Works Department will be collecting leaves beginning the week of October 28<sup>th</sup> and running through Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be no scheduled collection zones this season, as the Crew will monitor the entire Town daily and will be collecting leaves throughout.

We ask that you please rake your leaves to the curb, but not into the street, as this creates surface drainage issues and possibly a potential fire hazard. Also, please refrain from parking your vehicles directly in front of or on top of the piles of leaves.



Place leaves to the curb.



Leaves do NOT belong in the street

Leaf piles should consist of leaves only! By including grass clippings, mulch, twigs, and small branches, this damages our vacuum and is the number one reason for delays in the collection cycle each year. If we find that your pile of leaves contains anything besides leaves, we will skip your pile and you will be responsible for bagging the leaves on your own.

If you prefer to bag your leaves for regular brush pick-up, please use lawn bags or place them in a separate container from your trash and place them to the curb by 7 am each Tuesday. Do not place leaves in trash bags!

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#### FROM MAYOR FOSSELMAN



The redesign of **Montgomery Avenue and Kensington Parkway** is well underway. Thank you to the Staff and all of the Residents who participated in the design process over the last 4 years. The new intersection will slow speeders and increase the green space 300%.

The Town hosted a **Business Mixer** for all entrepreneurs in Kensington on September 30th—over 60 attended. Also present were the Director of the Mid-County Services Center, Board Members of the Kensington Business District Association and the Chamber of Commerce; as well as Maier Warner PR and the County Police. Ideas were exchanged and issues addressed.

Members of the Design Guidelines, Development Review Board, and the Revitalization Committees gathered for a roundtable discussion with Maier Warner reps to evaluate the 2013-2014 **Maier Warner Contract**. A vote will be taken on October 21st.

A letter will be sent to the County Council, from the **Montgomery County Maryland Municipal League Chapter**, signed by each mayor, expressing our concerns with the Office of Legislative Oversight's (OLO) Report on Municipal Tax Duplication and Revenue Sharing.

The **Noyes Library Foundation** had a successful fundraiser and 120th birthday celebration on Saturday, October 12th. I had the honor of MCeeing the event and County Executive Ike Leggett was the special guest. Thank you to all of the volunteers and sponsors.

The Town continues to work with the State Highway Administration on the **refurbishing of the Connecticut Avenue median** to add decorative pavers and new plantings. Also working on a **new wrought iron fence** for the CSX rail crossing bridge.

I attended a leadership breakfast hosted by our District 1 County Council Member, Roger Berliner. Several neighborhood leaders and municipal members attended for a productive question and answer period.

Reminder that the **Town listserve** is separate from the Kensingtown list on Yahoo.com. In order to receive the official messages and important information such as Town events, street repairs, snow removal, and other services, please go to TOK.MD.GOV and click on "Sign Up" in the bottom right corner.

The **Silver Creek clean up** for Day To Serve began on September 28th with several volunteers. Thank you to them all as well as former Council Member, **John Thompson**, for leading the task; and the **Temple Housing Apartments** for assisting. The goal of the project is to improve Silver Creek overall – functionally and visually. The creek floods and the banks are deteriorating. The invasive bamboo has taken over the site, reduced the adjacent green space, and is harming the native trees and plants. The bamboo is to be removed – roots and all, new riprap placed along the creek banks, deciduous trees planted (donated by **Temple Emanuel**), evergreens installed by the Town, and the grassy areas refined with native plants and flowers. We are coordinating the efforts with Park and Planning.

#### **Town Permits**

3505 Frederick Place Fence

10628 Connecticut Ave. Sign

3809 Farragut Avenue Sign

10516 Connecticut Ave. Interior

10123 Connecticut Ave. Interior

3923 Washington Street
Addition

3607 Farragut Avenue Driveway Apron

3606 Perry Avenue Shed

10101 Kensington Pkwy.
Addition

10315 Summit Avenue Fence

10301 Kensington Pkwy.
Interior

#### From Town Manager Daily



• NZI Construction is in the midst of completing the intersection re-design at Kensington Parkway and Montgomery Avenue. Once completed, NZI will proceed with the planned milling and paving of Frederick Avenue, between Fre-

derick Place and Wake Drive; the eastern half of Frederick Place; and Wheatley Street between Plyers Mill Road to Dupont Avenue. The intersection will be completed this year; however, I do not expect the milling and paving street project to begin until early spring.

- Please be reminded that our Code Enforcement Officer, Jim Snow, will continue to enforce our parking restrictions throughout Town. If you live on a street with permitted parking, please stop by Town Hall for a permit. \$20 per vehicle.
- The Town is in solid financial health with revenues exceeding our expectations for FY 12-13. The FY 13-14 Budget should represent this standing and allow us to make major contributions to our CIP Budget.

#### MAYOR

Peter C. Fosselman

Mayor.Fosselman@tok.md.gov

#### COUNCIL

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Mayor.Council@tok.md.gov

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#### July 22, 2013 Town Council Summary

- Approved Organizational and Town Meeting Minutes from July 1, 2013.
- Approved Resolution R-12-2013 supporting Rebuilding Together's Application for Fiscal Year 2014 Community Investment Tax Credit.
- Reviewed Petition for Permit Parking and Approved a Residential Permit Parking Program for the 3900 Block of Baltimore Street that would be in effect from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on week-days excluding holidays.
- Waived the Town Hall rental fee for MCCPTA Cluster Coordinators to have a gathering with Maryland State Legislators on August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Announced the Labor Day Festival location will be moved back to Howard Avenue.

  Discussed extending a contract with Maier Warner for Public Relations. The Town will continue for the next month under the current contract until the new contract is reviewed. Maier Warner will provide the total cost for an addendum to the contract for an economic development strategy.

July 22, 2013—Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Bartram, Furman, McMullen, and Sexton, Town Manager Daily, Assistant Town Manager Hoffman and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence was observed for Joshua Haynes, who recently passed away.

The minutes from July 1, 2013 were reviewed and approved.

#### Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations -

The Maier Warner Resolution was tabled and moved to a discussion item to allow time for the Town Attorney to review the proposed contract.

Resolution No. R-12-2013 supporting Rebuilding Together's Application for the Fiscal Year 2014 Community Investment Tax Credit Program, offered through Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development, was discussed. Lee-Berkeley Shaw, Director of Development for Rebuilding Together, was present; she requested the Town's support of their application to the State to receive tax credits to support their Volunteer Home Repair Program, which includes county

-wide safety, accessibility, and energy efficiency repairs made for low income homeowners.

The petition to designate a Residential Permit Parking area on the 3900 block of Baltimore Street was reviewed. Town Manager Daily reported that the required public notice of the review was sent out in the June Journal, and that the Town has not received any objections. He also reported that the individual that triggered the petition was no longer parking on Baltimore.

Dan Murphy, of Baltimore Street, spoke about the situation and stated that many of the residents on Baltimore Street signed the petition for various reasons, to include: concerns over commuter parking from HOC, walk-off parking, and the difficulty of exiting one's driveway due to cars being parked too close to the driveway apron.

The Council discussed the petition, which had requested designating the 3900 block as permit parking, and decided to allow for limited residential permit restrictions between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. These restrictions are comparable to

other restrictions placed on residential streets within the Town. The Council requested that staff research a possible ordinance to prevent individuals from occupying their vehicles overnight.

From the Mayor and Town Council – Jennifer Cope, Area Vice President of MCCPTA for BCC, WJ, Wheaton, and Whitman Clusters, requested the drill hall rental fee be waived to hold an event for MCCPTA members and parents to meet with Maryland State Legislators. The Council agreed to waive the fee, provided the necessary insurance was obtained if alcohol was served.

The Mayor and Council discussed extending the contract with Maier Warner to serve as the Marketing and Public Relations representative of the Town. The contract amount of \$34,000 was previously approved within the FY 2014 budget; however, the resolution was tabled in order to review the scope of services, along with looking at an addendum to the contract that would allow Maier Warner to develop and implement an economic development strategy. Council questioned whether the addendum contract could be included within the new scope of work, which would require Town staff to take over Maier Warner's social media campaign. It was determined that staff did not have the time to take over Maier Warner's social media campaign, and that the economic development strategy funds, \$15,000, had already been approved within the FY 2014 budget, in addition to the contract extension with Maier Warner.

The Mayor and Council agreed to extend the existing contract with Maier Warner until Town Attorney Ferguson could review the new contract and proposed addendum. The Maier Warner resolution is expected to be reviewed again in September.

Charlie Maier and Kris Warner of Maier

Warner discussed with the Council the lack of business participation with Third Thursdays and agreed to take a secondary role in planning and promoting the monthly event. The Mayor and Council asked that the local business community take a greater interest in the event and also pledged continued support.

Jack Gaffey spoke in support of continuing Third Thursday as a Town sponsored event, but also suggested the Town should focus its resources towards finding businesses to fill commercial vacancies. Eli Sola-Sole also spoke in support of Third Thursday and hoped that other businesses would rally to keep the event well organized.

The Mayor reported he helped the Ken-Gar community clean out their Community Center to prepare for a grant they received to renovate the center; attended the County Council Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee to discuss tax duplication, the County Council is supportive of making changes which will benefit municipalities; spoke at the Eagle Scout ceremony at Town Hall, which included Residents Jamie Fitzpatrick and Alex Stablow; attended the GROWS (Grassroots Organization for the Well-being of Seniors) event to raise awareness of Aphasia, the loss of the ability to speak; and stated the Town is moving forward with Phase 2 of improvement at the Montgomery Avenue and Kensington Parkway intersection and Phase 2 of the outdoor tree lighting along Antique Row on Montgomery, Fawcett, and Armory.

Council Member McMullen reported he attended the successful 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bike Parade; he will be holding a Traffic Committee meeting in September, and has been approached by Residents to explore initiating a composting collection.

Council Member Furman attended the

successful 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bike Parade; presented photos of median improvements in other locations, and discussed needed median improvements on Connecticut Avenue as well as replacing the fence on the bridge that crosses the CSX tracks.

From the Town Manager and Staff - Town Manager Daily reported he attended a seminar on obtaining grants; the Clum Kennedy brick pathway will be resubmitted for the CPP grant; some POS funds have been allocated to the Town and a required annual request of possible projects will be submitted; the Labor Day Festival will be located back on Howard Avenue; and he will be attending a meeting on tax duplication.

**Public appearances** – There were no public appearances.

#### **Council Actions:**

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the minutes from the July 1, 2013 Organizational and Town Meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Sexton moved to approve Resolution No. R-12-2013 supporting Rebuilding Together's Application for Fiscal Year 2014 Community Investment Tax Credit Program offered through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to approve Resident Permit Parking for the 3900 block of Baltimore Street in effect for standard hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays excluding holidays. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Bartram moved to waive the fee for an informal meet and greet of PTA members and parent advocates with Maryland State Legislators providing insurance is obtained if alcohol is served. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman moved to continue the current contract for next month with Maier Warner for public relations until the new contract and resolution are reviewed by the Town Attorney and Maier Warner provides the total budget needed for the addendum for an economic development strategy and implementation. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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#### **Town Council Meeting News**

A recording of each Town Council meeting may be found on our website: http://tok.md.gov/town-business/council-meeting-recordings/

Additionally, a brief summary of any actions taken during a Council Meeting is sent out through our email notification system the following day. If you would like to receive this notification, please join our email list at www.tok.md.gov.

#### September 9, 2013 Town Council Summary

- Approved Town Meeting Minutes from July 22, 2013.
- Discussed options for further clarification of the Design Guidelines for the Sector Plan.
- Discussed with representatives from SHA the required standards and approvals needed to replace the fence along the Connecticut Avenue Bridge.
- Approved extending the existing contract with Maier Warner for Public Relations through October, 2013.

September 9, 2013—Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Bartram, Furman, McMullen, and Sexton, Town Manager Daily and Clerk-Treasurer Engels were present. Assistant Town Manager Hoffman was necessarily absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence was observed for Sidney Russell, who recently passed away.

The minutes from July 22, 2013 were reviewed and approved. See Council Actions

From the Mayor and Town Council – The Mayor and Council thanked Town Staff, Kara Sherrill, Lisa Connor, and all the volunteers for the successful Labor Day weekend; the Mayor thanked Montgomery Art Association for rotating the paintings in the Council Room; he reported the second part of the Mayor and Council retreat was held August 5th and thanked Jill McCrory of Leadership Outfitters for her donated services; he thanked Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, former Council Member John Thompson, Barrie Carr, and Shirley Watson for arranging the Movie Night; he along with Town Manager Daily met with Lieutenant Ormsby from Montgomery County Police to discuss traffic enforcement in Town; announced the Town hired Jim Snow, a retired police officer, as Code Enforcement Officer, he is currently enforcing parking restrictions in the Town; he reminded Residents a parking decal is needed for streets in Town with permit parking restrictions; he attended the Maryland Association of Counties Conference in Ocean City; he spoke to Kensington Park Retirement Community to discuss Government events and redevelopment in Town; the Council will be holding a special meeting with the Development Review Board, the Revitalization Committee and the Design Guidelines Committee to evaluate current services with Maier Warner and new tasks to focus on for redevelopment, a date has not been set yet; the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Kensington 8K Race is on September

21<sup>st</sup>; on September 28<sup>th</sup> the Town will participate in "Day to Serve" and clean up Silver Creek; and the Town will host a business meeting between business and property owners in Town on Monday September 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Council Member Bartram suggested a community effort to prune overgrowth to ensure sidewalks are passable in Town and reminded Residents of Pepco's home energy audits and their associated subsidies for repairs.

Council Member McMullen stated the Traffic Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and reminded Residents to participate in the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual 8K Race.

Council Member Furman stated locating the Festival back on Howard Avenue was successful and questioned whether input was received from the businesses on Howard Avenue.

Elisenda Sola-Sole stated she received positive feedback from businesses on the Festival's location and the only suggestions were to provide seating and allow the parade to continue a little further past Howard and Fawcett before dismantling.

Council Member Sexton reported the Train Show was successful and thanked the organization for proceeds being donated to Noyes Library Foundation.

From the Town Manager and Staff - Town Manager Daily stated he will be issuing a permit for St. Paul's Church to have their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pumpkin Patch.

**Public Appearances** – Jack Gaffey stated the train show was a success and thanked all the volunteers and organizers. Adnan Abbas informed Residents of bumper stickers, totes

and t-shirts he has designed for different communities including Kensington, his website is at www.myheartshere.com.

Council Member Furman discussed the Design Guidelines Task Force subcommittee's recommendation to use a professional to write the supplement to the Design Guidelines. The Council discussed the purpose of the supplement, which would be to clarify the Design Guidelines not adding another layer of requirements, but providing further guidance and resources to developers. The current funding available of \$5,000 was discussed. Council Member Bartram suggested because of limited funding, a portion of the supplement could be phased to determine outcomes, with additional funds to be determined later.

Anne Marie Turner and Helen Wilkes, members of the Design Guideline Task Force subcommittee spoke about clarification of the Design Guidelines and the need for a professional to write the Guidelines. The subcommittee will meet again in October to determine which areas of the Design Guidelines need clarification and report back to the Council on areas in need of further focus and clarification.

Jack Gaffey supported the Town supplementing the Design Guidelines and noted the importance of providing photographs and requiring a green strip between curbs and sidewalks.

Kate Mazzara and Maurice Agostino from SHA were present to discuss bridge improvements along Connecticut Avenue. They explained the required SHA standards, the permit process, and that approval would also be needed from CSX. The Town will check with CSX on approvals needed and continue to seek funding to replace the chain link fence with an ornamental fence.

The existing contract with Maier Warner was discussed and extended through October until a new contract is reviewed. See Council Actions.

#### **Council Actions:**

Council Member McMullen moved to approve the minutes from the July 22, 2013 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously 3 to 0. Council Member Bartram was not present at the time of the motion.

Council Member Furman moved to approve extending the current contract with Maier Warner for Public Relations through the end of October, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Furman moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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#### When It Snows...

The Town requires all of its residents and businesses to clear a path on the sidewalk in front of their properties within 24 hours of each snow fall. If a path has not been cleared within 24 hours, a notice will be sent to the resident or business reminding them it needs to be done. If a path still has not been cleared within 24 hours of the notice, a citation will be issued—\$65 for residential and \$195 for businesses. Businesses are reminded NOT to pile the snow at sidewalk corners or block pedestrian right-of-ways.

**Exceptions:** residential sidewalks located on Conn., Summit and Knowles Avenues will be cleared by the Town.

The Town is also accepting names of individuals who wish to be contacted to help with snow removal by residents. If you are interested, please contact the Town at 301.949.2424

#### COMMUNITY



#### Halloween Safety Reminders

As families in Montgomery County are making their plans for Halloween, the

Montgomery County Police Department would like to offer the following important safety reminders. Minimizing safety risks will help ensure a Happy Halloween for everyone.

- 1. "trick-or-treat" only in neighborhoods and at homes know to your family.
- 2. A parent, other familiar adult, or responsible older sibling should always accompany younger children.
- 3. Older Children should plan out a trick-ortreating route with their parents, wear a watch, carry a cell phone and return home at an agreed upon time.
- 4. Children should never approach a home without lights.
- 5. Children should not eat any collected candy until an adult has inspected it.
- 6. Any unwrapped or partially wrapped candy should be thrown away.
- 7. Keep yards clear of items such as ladders, and hoses that could trip young children.
- 8. Battery jack-o'-lantern candles are preferable to using a real flame.
- 9. If you do use candles, place the pumpkins away from where trick-or-treaters will be walking or standing.
- 10. Keep paper or cloth yard decorations away from burning candles.

Children should carry a flashlight when trickor-treating. They should walk on sidewalks where available, cross the street at the corner or in a crosswalk. Also wear brightly-colored,



or reflective costumes that won't cause tripping. Face make-up is preferable to wearing a mask, but if a child is wearing a mask, it should not impair the child's vision.



The tragic, true story of the trial and lynching of a man wrongly accused of murder is brought to emotional and theatrical life by acclaimed playwright Alfred Uhry

(Driving Miss Daisy) and Jason Robert Brown, one of Broadway's most promising young composers (Songs for a New World).

In 1913, Leo Frank, a Brooklyn-raised Jew living in Georgia, is put on trial for the murder of 13-year-old Mary Phagan, a factory worker under his employ. Already guilty in the eyes of everyone around him, a sensationalist publisher and a janitor's false testimony seal Leo's fate. His only defenders are a governor with a conscience, and, eventually, his assimilated southern wife, who finds the strength and love to become his greatest champion.

Please visit www.KATonline.org or the Town's Calendar page www.tok.md.gov/calendar for show dates and times.

Opening weekend is Oct. 25th—26th. Kensington Residents are only \$15.









The Town would like to remind all residents that you are required to curb and leash your pet while within public recreation areas, specifically Town Parks. The Town does have the authority to issue citations to those that violate the leash and curbing code, which may warrant a **\$45 fine**. Whea-

ton Dog Park ( 11710 Orebaugh Avenue) is available for you to take your pets where they may exercise off-leash.

### **EXPLOREKENSINGTON.COM**



SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2013

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